



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

LETTERS OF WILLIAM FITZHUGH.

Aug. 8th, 1690.

Mr. Nicholas Hayward:

Sir. The above is a copy of my former, which I have before duplicated for fear of miscarriage, in this I have sent you your previous Account, as well as I could get an understanding of it, by the Accompt made up you may see what you are futurely to expect for your considerable quantity of tobacco and small parcell of goods. I have also sent you copy of his Accompt of sales which I hardly think is worth the paying postage money for. I have according to your desire as well as I could make a distinction between the debts, esteeming and being so informed from Mrs. Massey that the list of bills of 29425 lbs. is your particular, the book debts acct. of which goes here inclosed ammounting 11859 have estimated betwixt you and accordingly have framed the Account, the bills that were found & this year sent in Mrs. Letten's name have formed the Account to Madam Letten particular w'ch also goes herewith inclosed to Madam Lettens, of which she will find a poor return, for all the bills except three are certainly lost & it will be mere accident if any thing of those be got. I shall particularize to herself. I have also sent you an Account of yours & Mrs. Letten's goods unsold & undisposed of & still lying at Wm. Todd's, which I went purposely to see & found them so bad that I did not think worth the removal, nor indeed fit to offer to sale, therefore left them where they are, giving Mr. Todd liberty of making use of any of the things he has occasion for if he can make use of any of them, but withall have not absolutely given him them till I hear your farther orders, which I tell him I believe will be to let them remain where they are. In the Account of the things I have indorsed their qualities. I have sent you these particular Accounts, but have given him no manner of discharge, nor no farther allowance of the Acct. than you approve, for I must tell you was he able I believe he might be forced to a vast alteration

in this Account, but he is so poor that doubt more money would be spent in prosecuting than he would be able to answer, and consequently good money thrown after bad. I give you my sentiments but refer to yourself. What I want particularizing in my letter I hope you will find supplied in my Indorsements to each respective Acct. I have got three hhds tobo by me for you which Capt. Gutteridge promised to take in & has notes accordingly, the particulars whereof you have here included. To-morrow I expect him to give me bills of lading for them. Mr. Massey assures me these are very good tobo and if they come safe may afford you a little claret, which is more than I perceive you have yet got out of this concern. I have inclosed sent you what particular relates to Madam Letten as also her letter open for your perusal which I request you will seal and deliver her. Herewith comes bills of exchange from your brother indorsed by me for £12. 17 which is part of his debt of £25. 10 due to you, the remainder which is £12. 13. 0 placed to my Account & it shall be allowed; it was designed last year for the payment of your Smith, & accordingly he had my bill of exchange but they were lost in Burnham, & I had then likewise an order from him to Mr. Cooper for the money in part of payment for the sums lent him, which in my letter last year by Burnham I advised you to take by the said orders & credit him yourself for the remainder which would be a mighty obligation to him, & would not be lessened if you generously do it this year lovingly to let him see that as long as he has so kind a brother he need seek no other now farther, though while I am able your continual obligations obliges me to move for the service of any related to you. Sr. inclosed is bills of exchange from Capt. George Mason upon Mr. Thomas Storke for £4. 17. 4 which Please to receive for my use. Sr. inclosed also you'll recieve a bill of exchange drawn from Capt. Robt. Hooke master of the hannah of Bristol & his brother-in-law Mr. Jenkin Harris £120, the reason of mentioning it, for the support of the hannah & dispatch of her voyage; your acquaintance with trade & knowledge of the law belonging thereto I presume will immediately inform you that if any accident should happen it subjects the ship & cargoe especially the cargoe because the owners to answer or else both liable to payment, & if a protest should

happen I know you will dexterously meet with the merchant, ship & owners in Bristol & so on. Sr. I add no more in this because I am hurried away & hard in drinking with two masters taking their leave. I am Sr.

Your Wff.

To Mr. Nichs Hayward.

August 11th, 1690.

Mr. Nicholas Hayward:

S^r Herewith comes a bill of Loading but for two hhds of your three received. I could not possibly get the other on board, am afraid it will be lost, but know not how to remedy, it being so late before I met with the dissapointment, that I cannot now dispose of it, and help you to a new one next year, but if I can be assured I shall take that care in it.

Brother Luke comes home in this ship & has a letter of credit on you for £5. After the receipt of my bill of £120 is answered to you, which then Please to let him have if he wants, for he assures me he will very speedily repay it again in your hands, he designs also if his father furnishes him according to his expectations, to endeavour the purchase of Mrs. Meese's land. I have advised him rather to the purchase of Mr. Foster's, it being a more proper seat for him, & more quiet title, but however if he gets effects & resolves to proceed with Mrs. Meese I would not have concern oppose him, but had rather if he could that he purchase Fosters, & S^r if you can persuade him, if he purchases the one or the other, to take a special Estate taile, that is for his life, his wife's life, and the heirs of their two bodies begotten; the remainder in fee to me & my heirs, I am unwilling to pay a third part of the purchase, and desire you in my behalf to negotiate & consummate the affair for me.

I would willingly be out the money for the expectation of the fee of the other aforesaid and what money you shall be out more for me than you have in your hands, I shall take care next year fully and honestly to satisfy you if it should prove so fortunate, that I could be the purchaser of both wholly myself, I would willingly make the purchases. S^r I shall longingly expect to

hear from you, & shall joyfully & readily receive your farther commands, which shall be with all cheerfulness readily obeyed by

Wff.

S^r I have shipped Mr. Storke some Tob^o the produce whereof I have ordered him to pay you, which please to keep for my use. Capt. Gutteridge in this letter has the copy of that by Hooke, & that by James on the other side.

Mr. Nicholas Hayward &c.

August 8th & 11th, 1690.

Madame Lettens:

By Capt. Gutteridge I received your letter w^{ch} you are pleased to say was occasioned by the Recommends of some friends of mine there; truly I am highly obliged to those^e worthy gentlemen the Recommenders, for putting me in the opportunity of serving so deserving a lady, which I shall with all alacrity and readiness willingly perform. By the same conveyance I received your bills the particulars of which I have also sent you an account of, and have in that account indorsed the pooriness of their value which is now out of my power to help, or retrieve, for there you'll find two already received Brenton & Matthews which you have credit for in Mr. Massey's account, and I hope will be secure for you next year. Almost all the rest are irrevocably lost, King's is doubtful whether ever it will be got, Holdings very hazardous for the reasons there mentioned & only Colilough's pretty certain, as the account sent will more particularly appear, also there you have a particular account of what goods are sold and your whole balance from Mr. Massey, which I shall take care to secure for you next year, together with an account of those useless damnify'd goods left the methods I have taken with them I refer to Mr. Hayward's relation. I have also sent to Mr. Hayward, which I am confident he will show you, the station of the joint acct. betwixt yourself and him, as well as I could collect it, and in that too you will find very mean expectations. I will give you this Assurance Madam, that the best of

my Industry shall be used, to make them as advantageous to you as I can. You tell me you have made your letter of attorney joint to take off cavilling pretences, truly I know of none of those cavils to the debts standing out, nor heard of none of those already recovered, and I find things falls in so square with that remainder that its possible to recover, that I dont find it needful & therefore wont put you to the charge of recording your letter Attorney. I likewise by the same ship received your goods, which with the costs & charges amount to £21.15. Which because of the unsuitableness can not be retailed out, nor did I think it convenient without you had taken freight to sell them for ready tobacco if I could, because freight was both high & scarce & hardly any to be got, & Tob^o purchased & not freighted is as good as lost, therefore have sold them together in parcel for next years pay at seven shillings P. hundred to Mrs. Massey's Sister in law to Mr. Sigismund Massey* which amounts to 6214 lb Tob^o which shall be assuredly secured you, for which you may certainly take freight in England, provided this year there be crops made as likewise you may take uncertain freight for the balance of Mr. Massey's account of 2485, which I shall endeavour to secure too, I assure you madam I have acted in your affairs as if it were really my own, & have hitherto put you not to a penny's charge & hope shall so finish, for Yo^r kind acceptance is the full of the expectation of

Wff.

To Mrs. Susanna Lettens in London &c.

August 20th, 1690.

Mr. John Cooper:

S^r My brother Luke is now coming home in this ship that this comes to you in & he has promised me to effect two things on the getting me an ingenious boy out of the hospital who can

* Doubtless the ancestor of the Masseys of Stafford &c., in which family Sigismund was long a favorite name.

write read & cast accounts, whose passage should be paid & himself doubly cloathed, as Coll^o Ludwell has brought in one this year, provided he should be continued in an Employ suitable to his Education upon his arrival from thence, which would prove a convenient supply to my present occasions, & my business requires a continuance therein, as the Hospital expects & desires, the other is getting of us, an able, learned, serious & sober Minister, whose allowance here would be large & comfortable, & his setting forth there would be liberally contributed to by a twenty pound allowance that is granted to every one in that Quality that transports themselves to us, by the Bishop of London. What I have to request you is if he should fail or neglect, if it were not too much trouble to help his failures & supply his neglects I am Sir

Your Wff.

To Mr. John Cooper, Merch't in London.

Aug. 16th, 1690.

Honoured Sir:

Your son which I had always an Esteem for as a countryman & friend, by his own endeavors in compliance with Mr. Secretary Spencer's advice & by the persuasion & solicitation of Mr. Secretary himself as they have both assured me, & as Mr. Secretary himself informed me is of a friendly countryman more nearly concerned by an Alliance, which together with what you have heard from Mr. Secretary, he will inform you of that whole affair, at whose instance & request this now comes, he being coming to pay his Duty to you & to crave your blessing & your advice & direction & assistance now to launch him out into some happy Subsistence in this world. I have told himself, that if you could furnish him with a handsome farm in some part of your Estate there it would be a comfortable subsistence, & which I believe would better sort with his desires, now he has seen the trouble of travelling & settling, but if your convenience's & occasions or indeed inclinations dont agree to such a

Settlement, & that you continue your resolutions of settling him here as Mr. Secretary told me, you always designed, then Sr. I will presume at his Instance to give you the best method for such a Settlement, which is by lodging in some merchant's hand in London 150 or 200 £ for the buying a good, convenient seat of land, which upon so much ready money some may in a short time be purchased & then about such an other sum lodged in the hand of some of the Royall African company, who for that will engage to deliver negroes here at 16 or 18 or to be sure at £20 p head, which purchase so made of lands & Negroes, the dependencies upon a Settlement so made, as horses, cattle, hogs & so on are easily purchased here to begin with & continually raised for a future support. Sr. A Settlement thus made, will make a handsome gentile & sure subsistence, & if there be any thing of care & industry may be improved, but cannot well be mischiefed. Whereas if he should have three times the sums above mentioned, its certain it will yield him a great deal of Tob*, but if either neglect, carelessness or unskillfullness should happen its all brought to naught, & if the best husbandry & the greatest forecast & skill were used, yet ill luck at Sea, a fall of a market, or twenty other accidents may ruin & overthrow the best Industry. I am

Wff.

To Oliver Luke* Esq. at Woodend in &c.

* It appears from a subsequent letter, that George Luke, son of Oliver Luke, Esq., of Woodend, Bedfordshire, England, settled in Westmoreland county, Virginia, and married Mrs. Smith, the widowed sister of William Fitzhugh.

The first of the family given in the English pedigrees is Sir Walter Luke, of Cople, Bedfordshire, a judge of the King's bench, who was grandfather of John Luke, of Woodend, in the parish of Cople. The son of the latter, Nicholas Luke, of Woodend, married Margaret, daughter of Oliver, Lord Sir John of Bletshoe, and died in 1613. His son, Sir Oliver Luke, of Woodend, married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Valentine Knightly, of Fawsley, Northamptonshire, and was the father of Sir Samuel Luke, of Woodend, who is supposed to be the hero of Hudibras. Sir Samuel served in the Short and Long Parliaments, and took an active part on the popular side; served with distinction in the Parliamentary Army 1643 to 1645, when being a Presby-

terian, he was retired by the Self Denying Ordinance; was a member of the Convention Parliament in 1660, and died in 1670. He was of very small size, and the Royalist writers of the day described him as being a deformed dwarf, but, says the Dictionary of National Biography, his military career showed him to be a gallant and efficient officer, and his correspondence, that he was a man of sense, energy and courage. While there appears no positive evidence that Butler was ever in his service, yet it is evident (from a rhyme which requires the word Luke, or a similar sound) that he intended his "Colonel" to represent Sir Samuel.

Sir Samuel Luke married Elizabeth, daughter of William Freeman, and was succeeded at Woodend by his eldest son, Oliver Luke, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Onslow Winch, of Emerton, Bedfordshire. George Luke, fourth child of Oliver and Elizabeth Luke, was born July 29th, 1659.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* (1824, II, 124 &c.) states that the family of Luke became extinct with George Luke, grandson of Sir Samuel, and that his tomb remained in the pavement of Cople Church, with an inscription stating he was "The last Luke of Woodend." *Lyson's Bedfordshire*, page 72, says that this George Luke, the last of the family, died in 1732.

George Luke, of Virginia, was a grandson of Sir Samuel, but whether he was the George Luke who was buried at Cople in 1732 is not known. It is, however, probable that he was.

Besides the authorities cited, see the *Visitations of Bedfordshire* (Harleian Society).